

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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FOR IOP/M
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NAIROBI FOR VOA

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION

THE GOVERNMENT-OWNED ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL TODAY COMMENTS ON THE
POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN GHANA WHERE A RIFT HAS BEEN BROUGHT
TO THE SURFACE BETWEEN THE COUNTRY'S MILITARY RULERS AND PROFESS-
IONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

IN AN EDITORIAL, THE MAIL SAYS FORMER PRESIDENT KWAME NKRUMAH
WAS OUSTED BY THE ARMY ELEVEN YEARS AGO UNDER THE PRETEXT
THAT HE HAD FAILED TO ORGANIZE ECONOMY OF GHANA IN THE MANNER
IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN.

ELEVEN YEARS AFTER NKRUMAH'S OUSTER, HOWEVER, GHANA'S ECONOMIC
PROBLEMS HAVE MOVED FROM BAD TO WORSE, THE PAPER SAYS.

"AND IF NKRUMAH WERE TO RISE FROM THE DEAD TOMORROW, THERE
WOULD BE THOUSANDS OF GHANAIS WHO WOULD WANT HIM BACK TO
POWER TO SOLVE THEIR ECONOMIC ILLS AND OTHER PROBLEMS," THE
MAIL EDITORIALIZES.

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IT SAYS SUBSEQUENT GOVERNMENTS, MILITARY AND CIVILIAN WHICH
FOLLOWED, ALSO FAILED TO BRING STABILITY TO THE COUNTRY AND
TO PUT THE ECONOMY ON ITS FEET.

ACCORDING TO THE NEWSPAPER, A SIMILAR FATE APPLIED TO COUNTRIES
"WHICH HAD BEEN MISLED BY ARMY GENERALS WITH PROMISES OF DIVERSE

TYPES OF POLITICAL MANNA FROM THE LAND OF THE UNKNOWN."

CITING UGANDA AND ETHIOPIA AS EXAMPLES, THE MAIL POINTS OUT: "THE COUP PLOTTERS WHO HELPED IDI AMIN TO RIDE ONTO POWER ARE ALL GONE. THEY HAVE BEEN KILLED BY THE SAME MAN THEY HELPED TO RIDE INTO POWER - FIELD MARSHAL IDI AMIN DADA.

COMPARING THE THREE COUNTRIES, UGANDA, ETHIOPIA AND GHANA, THE PAPER SAYS IF THE MILITARY RULERS HAD HAD MADE A GOOD JOB OF THE SERIOUS BUSINESS OF RULING THE COUNTRIES IN WHICH THEY IMPOSED THEMSELVES AS RULERS, THE MASSES WOULD NOT BE GOING ON STRIKE IN SUPPORT OF THEIR "UNCEREMONIAL REMOVAL."

NOTING THAT AFRICA HAS HAD HER LESSONS IN THE MILITARY RULE WHEREVER IT FORCED ITSELF ON THE PEOPLE, THE NEWSPAPER CONCLUDES:

"IT IS TO BE HOPED THAT AFRICA HAS LEARNT HER LESSONS FROM THE UNFORTUNATE ADVENTURES OF HER GENERALS AND THAT FROM NOW ON AFRICA WILL WORSHIP THE SANCTITY OF THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE."
ITEM USIS LUSAKA.
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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